

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) A method for distributing information content encoded as a plurality of layers comprising a base layer and an enhancement layer, such that the base layer is needed for reconstructing said information content, characterised by the steps of:

transmitting said enhancement layer by means of superdistribution;

receiving a request for purchase, regarding at least a portion of said information content, from a user; and

in response to receiving the request, transmitting at least a portion of said base layer corresponding to said request to said user.

2. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of receiving a request comprises the steps of:

establishing a connection between the user and a server;  
and

receiving said request at said server via said connection.

3. (original) The method according to claim 2, wherein said step of transmitting at least a portion of said base layer comprises the steps of:

detecting the reception of said request;

determining what specific information content the user requests to purchase; and

transmitting a base layer associated with said specific information content from the server to the user.

4. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

encrypting said enhancement layer before transmitting the same by means of superdistribution.

5. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of encrypting said at least a portion of the base layer before transmitting the same.

6. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~4~~<sup>or 5</sup>, further comprising the step of providing the user with a key for decrypting said encrypted layer.

7. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the steps are performed over the Internet.

8. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein a portion of the base layer is co-distributed with said enhancement layer.

9. (original) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium storing computer executable instructions for causing a computer to distribute information content encoded as a plurality of layers, which comprise a base layer and an enhancement layer, wherein the base layer is needed for reconstructing said information content, characterized in that said computer executable instructions when run on a computer causes the computer to perform the steps of:

transmitting said enhancement layer by means of superdistribution;

receiving a request for purchase, regarding at least a portion of said information content, from a user; and

in response to receiving the request, transmitting at least a portion of said base layer corresponding to said request to said user.

10. (original) A system which is arranged for distributing information content encoded as a plurality of layers comprising a base layer and an enhancement layer, such that the base layer is needed for reconstructing said information content, characterised in that it comprises:

means for handling said information content;

a first server having means for transmitting said enhancement layer by means of superdistribution; and

a second server having means for receiving a request for purchase, regarding at least a portion of said information content, from a user; and means for, in response to receiving the request, transmitting at least a portion of said base layer corresponding to said request to said user.

11. (original) The system according to claim 10, wherein said first and second servers are embodied by a single server device

12. (original) The system according to claim 10, wherein said means for handling the information content are arranged to encode the information content into said plurality of layers.

13. (original) The system according to claim 10, wherein said means for handling the information content are arranged for

receiving the information content encoded as said plurality of layers.

14. (original) A server for use in a system according to claim 10, the server comprising means for transmitting an enhancement layer by means of superdistribution.

15. (original) A server for use in a system as claimed in claim 10, the server comprising means for receiving a request for purchase, regarding at least a portion of an information content, from a user; and means for, in response to receiving the request, transmitting at least a portion of a base layer corresponding to said request to said user.

16. (original) A client system which is arranged for processing information content encoded as a plurality of layers comprising a base layer and an enhancement layer, such that the base layer is needed for reconstructing said information content, characterised in that it comprises:

means for receiving said enhancement layer;

means for transmitting a request for purchase, regarding at least a portion of said information content, to an information content vendor;

means for receiving at least a portion of said base layer corresponding to said request; and

means for presenting said information content to a user by processing said at least a portion of said base layer and a corresponding portion of said enhancement layer.

17. (original) The client system according to claim 16, wherein said means for presenting said information content to a user comprises means for decoding said layers.

18. (original) A computer program product comprising a computer readable medium storing computer executable instructions for causing a computer to process information content encoded as a plurality of layers, which comprise a base layer and an enhancement layer, wherein the base layer is needed for reconstructing said information content, characterised in that said computer executable instructions when run on a computer causes the computer to perform the steps of:

receiving said enhancement layer;

transmitting a request for purchase to an information content vendor;

receiving at least a portion of said base layer corresponding to said request; and

presenting said information content to a user by processing said at least a portion of said base layer and a corresponding portion of said enhancement layer.